

MINUTES – AUGUST 2, 2004

The Caswell County Board of Commissioners met in regular session at the Historic Courthouse in Yanceyville, North Carolina at 6:30 p.m. on Monday, August 2, 2004. Members present: Mel O. Battle, Chairman, Larry G. Hamlett, Vice-Chairman, Nathaniel Hall, Jack W. Hooper, Cathy W. Lucas, Kenneth D. Travis, and George W. Ward, Jr. Also present: Robert V. Shaver, Jr., County Attorney, Gordon Bendall representing The Caswell Messenger, and Billy Baker and Lauren Chesnut representing The Danville Register & Bee. Wanda P. Smith, Clerk to the Board, recorded the minutes.

MOMENT OF SILENT PRAYER

Chairman Battle opened the meeting with a Moment of Silent Prayer.

APPROVAL OF AGENDA

Commissioner Travis moved, seconded by Commissioner Hamlett to approve the agenda as presented.

Commissioner Lucas requested that Agenda Item Nos. 8 and 10 be reversed in order.

Upon a vote of the motion and with the reversal of Items No. 8 and 10, the motion carried unanimously.

APPROVAL OF CONSENT AGENDA

Commissioner Hamlett moved, seconded by Commissioner Travis to approve the Consent Agenda as presented. The motion carried unanimously.

1) Approval of Minutes of June 7, 2004 Meeting

2) Monthly Tax Report for June, 2004

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| Total Amount of Taxes Collected | \$193,472.39 |
| Tax Maps/Cards | \$ 380.75 |
| County Maps | \$ 47.40 |
| Beer License | \$ 90.00 |
| Wine License | \$ 200.00 |
| 2004 Tax Prepayments | \$ 3,997.02 |
| (Real & personal property, not vehicles) | |
| NSF Charge | \$ 120.11 |

3) Monthly EMS Billing Report for June, 2004

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| Total Billed | \$ 40,482.00 |
| Total Collected | \$ 21,510.44 |

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| Total Claims Filed with Medicare | 64 |
| Total Claims Filed with Medicaid | 28 |
| Total Adjustments Private Pay | \$ 344.00 |
| Total Adjustments Medicare/Medicaid | \$ 9,142.40 |

- 4) Budget Amendment No. 42-DSS
- 5) Budget Amendment No. 43-Health Department
- 6) Budget Amendment No. 44
- 7) Budget Amendment No.45
- 8) Budget Amendment No. 46-DSS
- 9) Budget Amendment No. 47
- 10) Budget Amendment No. 48
- 11) Budget Amendment No. 49-Health Department

PUBLIC COMMENTS

Chairman Battle opened the meeting for public comments. There were no public comments made.

RESOLUTION REQUESTING ASSISTANCE FROM NC DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE/DIVISION OF COMMUNITY ASSISTANCE

Mr. Mike Cusimano, County Planner, came before the Board and presented a proposed Resolution for the Board's consideration. Mr. Cusimano stated that this Resolution is a prerequisite to the Division of Community Assistance providing assistance to Caswell County in the development of a Zoning Ordinance that coordinates and brings all of the County's existing Land Use Ordinances into one Unified Development Ordinance. Mr. Cusimano added that attached to the Resolution is a tentative timetable for the process which is intended only as a guideline and does not have to be included with the Resolution. Mr. John Moore, with the NC Division of Community Assistance and Mr. Melvin Butler, Planning Board Chairman were also present.

Chairman Battle raised issue with the paragraph, "WHEREAS, the Board of Commissioners and Planning Board of Caswell County have agreed that it would be in the best interest of the County to have a zoning ordinance that covers its entire jurisdiction,". Chairman Battle stated that to his knowledge this has not been done. Chairman Battle referred to the timetable and questioned whether anything had been done in July, 2004. Mr. Cusimano answered that the Planning Board held two meetings in June and one in July and all three meetings had discussions about a zoning ordinance and

a substantial amount of progress has been made. Commissioner Lucas noted that in the same paragraph referred to by Chairman Battle, "its entire jurisdiction" is somewhat confusing. Chairman Battle noted that the Board of Commissioners instructed the Planning Board to include "its entire jurisdiction" in the zoning ordinance.

Mr. Melvin Butler, Planning Board Chairman, came before the Board and reported that the Planning Board has started the process as to what they plan to recommend to the Board. Mr. Butler noted that tonight was the first time he had seen a timetable schedule. Mr. Butler stated that the Planning Board is genuinely interested in doing what the people of the County want to do. Commissioner Lucas asked Mr. Butler, as far as maps, would they be put in the form of future use or current use. Mr. Butler answered that the Planning Board would start with current use, as it is established today and then let the people tell them how it should be. Commissioner Lucas asked when the maps would be ready and Mr. Butler answered that the maps are presently being put together by the Department of Commerce. Mr. Butler stated that as soon as the Planning Board receives the maps and after they present them to the Board of Commissioners, they will then go out to the community and share them with the citizens.

Commissioner Lucas asked Mr. Cusimano to explain the difference between a Unified Development Ordinance and a Zoning Ordinance. Mr. Cusimano clarified that he feels it is important to take all of the County's existing Ordinances and make sure that they are coordinated and under the umbrella of the Zoning Ordinance. Mr. Cusimano added that the language of the existing ordinances will be incorporated into the Unified Development Ordinance.

After further discussion, Chairman Battle moved, seconded by Commissioner Ward to adopt the following Resolution which will delete paragraph three as originally presented and to adopt the tentative schedule, to be worked out between the County Planner and Planning Board, to include input from the Board of Commissioners. The motion carried by a vote of five to two with Commissioners Lucas and Travis voting no.

RESOLUTION
TO SEEK ASSISTANCE FROM THE DIVISION OF COMMUNITY
ASSISTANCE, NORTH CAROLINA DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE,
TO DEVELOP A UNIFIED DEVELOPMENT ORDINANCE FOR CASWELL
COUNTY

WHEREAS, Caswell County desires to provide for the public health, safety and general welfare of the citizens of the county; and

WHEREAS, the County wishes to encourage orderly development, protect the quality of the environment, and regulate the location and use of structures and land for commerce, industry, and residences in accordance with the Land Use Plan.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Board of Commissioners of Caswell County formally requests assistance from the Division of Community Assistance, Department of Commerce, to develop a unified development ordinance for adoption by this Board according to the tentative schedule attached; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the County agrees to compensate the Division of Community Assistance for mileage to and from planning sessions and land use reconnaissance, and for subsistence when night meetings are required, and for supplies used during the process.

ADOPTED THIS THE 2ND DAY OF AUGUST, 2004.

ATTEST:

S/Wanda P. Smith
Wanda P. Smith
Clerk to the Board

S/M. O. Battle
M. O. Battle
Chairman

WORK FIRST PROGRAM STATUS FOR 2005-2007

Ms. Bettye Parker, Director, Department of Social Services, and Ms. Debbie McGuire, Human Resources Coordinator, came before the Board with a recommendation to the Board of Commissioners regarding Standard/Electing Status and the Work First Program for 2005-2007. Ms. Parker reported that she is present tonight to request that the Board of Commissioners approve the designation of Standard or Electing Status for the Work First Program for the period of July 1, 2005 through June 30, 2007, the appointment of a County Commissioner to the Work First Planning Committee, and the approval of the proposed members to the Work First Planning Committee.

Ms. Parker reported that the Caswell County Department of Social Services has operated the Work First Program as a Standard County for the past year and prior to that operated as an Electing County for four years. Ms. Parker stated that she feels that the Work First Program has operated more effectively as a Standard County in meeting program goals and spending less time tracking data manually. Ms. Parker added that even though the Maintenance of Effort requirement is ten percent higher, they would have been at risk this year because the County would have been required to provide an additional \$27,000 in Work First Cash Assistance because they needed this much more for the year that just ended June 30.

Ms. Parker stated that it is her recommendation as well as the Social Services Board that Caswell County remain under Standard Status for the Work First Program for the period of July 1, 2005, through June 30, 2007.

After further discussion, Chairman Battle moved, seconded by Commissioner Travis that the Caswell County Social Services Department continue to operate under Standard Status for the Work First Program for the period of July 1, 2005 through June 30, 2007. The motion carried unanimously.

Chairman Battle appointed Commissioner Travis to serve as the Board of Commissioners' designee on the Work First Planning Committee.

Chairman Battle moved, seconded by Commissioner Travis to accept the following membership for the Work First Planning Committee for 2005-2007 as presented. The motion carried unanimously.

Proposed Membership of the 2005-2007
Caswell County Work First Planning Committee
Approved by the DSS Board July 20, 2004

Ethel Fuller, DSS
Joe Harris, Mental Health
Edith Gentry, appointed by Health Board
Lisa Lassiter, appointed by Dr. Douglas Barker
Mindy Satterfield, Royal Park Uniforms
Pat Warren, Local Business Owner
Kenneth Travis, Board of Commissioners
Doris Boyd, Caswell Parish/DV Shelter
Sandra Hudspeth, Partnership for Children
Kathy Stumpfig, Vocational Rehabilitation
Gordon Allen, ESC
Angela Webb, PCC/Job Link Center
Betty Gentry, Cooperative Extension Service
Bettye Parker, DSS Director
Lorene Garland, WFFA Supervisor
Debbie McGuire, WFES Program
Melissa Williamson, CDOT Director
Member of Faith Based Organization
Recipient of Work First Services
Recipient of Work First Services
Child Welfare Staff Member

REQUEST FROM AGING SERVICES TO CONSIDER TRANSFER OF MEALS ON
WHEELS PROGRAM TO SENIOR CENTER

Ms. Kim Dawkins Berry, Area Aging Services Coordinator, came before the Board and stated that she did not come prepared to make any type of request for agency change of services for the Meals on Wheels Program in Caswell County. Ms. Dawkins-Berry added that discussion has been opened by citizens as well as staff of Caswell County to look at the possibility and how economically and efficiently these programs are run

throughout the County. Ms. Dawkins-Berry clarified that this is the Home and Community Care Block Grant and it is her agency's job to administer the program and to monitor it for quality. Ms. Dawkins-Berry stated that her primary concern is the older adults in Caswell County and she is not concerned about who administers the program. Ms. Dawkins-Berry added that in Caswell County there is a Commission on Aging Planning Committee that looks at all of the issues affecting older adults in the County. Ms. Dawkins-Berry stated that if it is feasible to look beyond current services, she is not the one to make the decision.

Chairman Battle stated that he is a little confused as to why Ms. Dawkins-Berry was present tonight. Ms. Dawkins-Berry clarified that when she spoke to the County Manager, he told her that this discussion needed to be opened for making a possible change because of consolidation of all of the programs that the Board funds under one entity. Ms. Dawkins-Berry stated that there have been concerns brought to her office and also to the County that it may be better for volunteer recruitment if the Aging Program was consolidated. Ms. Dawkins-Berry stated that her job was only to open discussion and she could offer needed information as far as evaluation of programs, but felt that the Committee on Aging needs to be a part of this. Ms. Dawkins-Berry added that she did not feel all of the information is available.

Chairman Battle stated that he has been misled and neither has he been clear as to the Board's role in this.

Ms. Dawkins-Berry stated that this is a big issue and one that needs thoughtful and factual consideration. Ms. Dawkins-Berry added that she felt the Planning Committee would be the appropriate one to look at this issue. Upon questioning from Commissioner Lucas, Ms. Dawkins-Berry said it is incorrect that she is present to request a transfer of the Meals of Wheels Program and it was her understanding from discussions with the County Manager that she was coming to discuss the possibility of looking at how their programs could work in Caswell County.

Chairman Battle opened the floor for comments from the public.

Mr. Phil Brown, of Park Springs Road, Pastor of Bethel and Locust Hill Churches, came before the Board and stated that he has spent over 35 years of his professional life as an Administrator in life care communities in the State. Mr. Brown added that he has been in Caswell County for three years and has seen the Caswell Parish as one of the most unique, cooperative ministries that exist in the southeast to meet the needs of the community. Mr. Brown stated that it is very unusual to see a ministry such as this, that it has lasted for so long, and its commitment to the Meals on Wheels Program is second to none. Mr. Brown added that they raise money to supplement the grants that they receive to enhance the program. Mr. Brown noted that they are ultimately concerned about the client and the quality of their nutrition and this has been done for over 21 years. Mr. Brown stated that they are concerned that any change would have a negative effect on older persons. Mr. Brown noted that the Meals on Wheels Program has over 120 volunteers who faithfully deliver meals five days a week on nine routes, even on

Christmas Day. Mr. Brown stated that he cannot speak strongly enough that this is a part of a ministry of caring and concern and that's who they are in Caswell Parish.

Mr. David Grissom, Minister of Prospect Methodist Church, and member of the Caswell Parish Board came before the Board and stated that his concern is that everyone is here to take care of the needs of the elderly. Mr. Grissom added that when a meal is delivered and human contact is made, that means more than anything in the world to that elderly individual. Mr. Grissom stated that when that door is opened, they need to know that there is consistency and a familiar face there and that is what they can provide. Mr. Grissom added that they have a lot of goals that they want to attain and they have had some concerns. Mr. Grissom informed the Board that they are addressing those concerns and are revamping the program and have hired a new Director and an Assistant to this Program. Mr. Grissom stated that there are 28 churches who are helping to underwrite this program and would not want to lose this support.

Ms. Jean Scott came before the Board and stated that she has been on the Caswell Parish Board for a number of years and knows that the Parish is a one-of-a-kind ministry that reaches out to everyone in the County. Ms. Scott added that she has also been a Meals on Wheels volunteer and knows how much it means to everyone who profits from it. Ms. Scott stated that the Caswell Parish has done a good and efficient job of administering the Meals on Wheels Program for over 20 years. Ms. Scott added that the Meals on Wheels Program is a part of the ministry of the Caswell Parish.

Ms. Anne Watlington, former Caswell Parish Director, came before the Board and stated that she has been coming before the Board for many years and making requests and never asked for anything that they did not need. Ms. Watlington informed the Board that they had heard this week that the Board of Commissioners was considering moving the Meals on Wheels Program from the Caswell Parish to the Senior Center. Ms. Watlington stated that this upset them because the Parish has worked for over 20 years and built this program up from zero to nine routes. Ms. Watlington added that putting all of the programs under one roof as referred to by Ms. Berry does not always work. Ms. Watlington informed the Board of recent activities that have taken place within the Caswell Parish and Meals on Wheels Program. Ms. Watlington provided to Chairman Battle a copy of a recent evaluation report from the Piedmont Triad Council of Governments on the Meals on Wheels Program. Ms. Watlington stated that the Caswell Parish is a wonderful program and she appreciates the support the Board of Commissioners has given to them.

Ms. Mary Agnes Barker of Milton came before the Board and stated that the Caswell Parish has meant a lot to a lot of people. Ms. Barker added that she has carried meals for a long time and she knows how much the people appreciate them being there. Ms. Barker stated that they have worked hard for the Parish to try to build it up and would like the Board's support to keep it that way.

Ms. Lorrie Wrenn came before the Board and stated that she is a volunteer for the Meals on Wheels Program, can leave her work place and deliver the meals in an hour and a half,

and encouraged others to do the same. Ms. Wrenn added that this is a good program and works and would like for the Board to keep it exactly like it is.

Chairman Battle asked Ms. Mildred Hughes, Interim Caswell Parish Director, what is involved for a church to become a member of the Caswell Parish. Ms. Hughes answered that the Caswell Parish is an organization of ministers and the Parish has contacted all of the churches in the community and are currently recruiting. Chairman Battle asked if there is a financial obligation by the churches to belong to the Parish. Ms. Hughes answered that a financial obligation is strictly on a voluntary basis. Chairman Battle asked if there is a reason that out of over 140 churches in the County, there are only 29 churches that belong to the Parish. Ms. Hughes answered that these churches have been contacted and it is their decision whether to become a member of the Parish. Chairman Battle asked what effect there would be on the Caswell Parish's support if it no longer administered the Meals on Wheels Program. Ms. Hughes answered that they would probably work with the churches and try to keep it going.

Chairman Battle stated that communication is very important and the Board of Commissioners had no knowledge of the information given to him tonight by Ms. Watlington. Chairman Battle added that in the future communication needs to be from the Caswell Parish Board to the Board of Commissioners. Chairman Battle stated that the Meals on Wheels Program is a good program, the people need and deserve it, the volunteers need to be commended for what they do, and the Caswell Parish needs to be commended for what it does. Ms. Hughes assured the Board that they would receive communication from the Caswell Parish Board in the future.

After further discussion, Commissioner Lucas moved, seconded by Commissioner Ward that the Meals on Wheels Program continue to operate as it is currently at the Caswell Parish. The motion carried unanimously.

RECESS

The Board held a brief recess.

DISCUSSION OF EXPANDING NUMBER OF SOLID WASTE CENTERS

Commissioner Hooper stated that before he became Commissioner the solid waste convenience center located at Hightowers was removed and relocated to the Prospect Hill area. Commissioner Hooper added that there are people in Hightowers who would be willing to operate a convenience center and would like for the Board to consider appropriating funds to locate a site in this area. Chairman Battle asked Commissioner Hooper, if in his discussions there has been any displeasure expressed in the way the current site at Prospect Hill is being run. Commissioner Hooper answered that he has heard pros and cons, but it is his understanding that the site is now being run fairly well. Commissioner Hooper stated that he felt the individual operating the site in Prospect Hill is trying to do a good job, but there is still an issue of mileage difference for the citizens in Hightowers.

Chairman Battle stated that he thought that this is a good idea and that the Board needed to take a look at it to try to make it convenient for the citizens. Commissioner Lucas stated that for the record she has to drive seven miles one way in any direction to go to a convenience center site. Chairman Battle stated that the convenience center contracts expire in December and thought the Board should study this further and would instruct the County Manager to review this. Commissioner Hooper stated that if the Board does choose to pursue an additional site, he would like for the Board to advertise for bids. Chairman Battle agreed that this would be the fair procedure to follow.

Commissioner Lucas stated that the reason she asked for the rearranging of the agenda was because it was her understanding that in one of the proposed solid waste contracts, there was a proposal for equipment for two additional convenience center sites which would be valued at \$20,000. Commissioner Lucas added that she thought this might be something that the Board might want to consider.

APPROVAL OF SOLID WASTE CONTRACT

Mr. Robert V. Shaver, Jr., County Attorney, presented for the Board's consideration a proposed solid waste contract from Waste Industries. Commissioner Hamlett asked if this contract from Waste Industries reflects changes that have been made from the original contract. Mr. Shaver reported that the Addendums are included to clarify the bid and the increase in landfill tipping fees. Commissioner Hamlett asked if the last sentence in Addendum I, "Compensation payable to Waste Industries shall be adjusted annually every July 1st to reflect the increase or decrease in the cost of living as published by the United States Department of Labor, Bureau of Labor Statistics", was included in the last contract. Mr. Tim Smith, Solid Waste Director, answered that this sentence was included in the last contract. Commissioner Hall stated that he has a lot of problems with these Addendums and it was his understanding that this service was put up for bids and vendors placed their bids based upon the RFP. Commissioner Hall added that he could understand coming back and giving additional information to define or make something clear, but it appears to him that the County could easily lose the \$40,000 that it had gained just by these Addendums and noted the items. Commissioner Hall stated that to him the RFP was not conditional. Commissioner Hall suggested that the County Attorney draft a contract that is consistent with the County's RFP.

Upon questioning from Chairman Battle, Mr. Shaver noted that the clauses do leave some uncertainties for change and they are safeguards for the company. Mr. Shaver added that the clauses seem to be rather standard in this type of business and there were some of the same type of clauses in the last contract with a different company. Mr. Shaver stated that the clauses leave the door open for changes, but it is consistent with what the County has had before.

Mr. Mike Ingle, with Waste Industries, came before the Board and stated that some of Commissioner Hall's concerns are standard language that they put in their contract because there are things that they cannot foresee or predict for the future. Mr. Ingle

added that the disposal fees are something that they cannot control as a company and noted that in a previous meeting, the Solid Waste Director informed the Board that the current disposal facility was increasing its fees and the existing language in the current contract allows this and it was considered as a pass-through cost.

Commissioner Hall stated that his concern is that in Waste Industries' proposal, they indicate that they have a very special rate and that rate had a bearing on how he voted. Commissioner Hall added that when talking about the pass-through the \$40,000 savings could be negated if the special rate falls through. Mr. Ingle stated that the pass-through would be standard with any company. Commissioner Hall noted that his vote for Waste Industries was based on a significant savings to the County and he would like to see it remain a significant savings. Commissioner Hall questioned the method by which fuel surcharge is derived and Mr. Ingle explained the process.

Mr. Mike Ingle stated that everything in the RFP has been addressed in their contract and in an effort to try to clarify some details, they included the Addendums which was for further discussion and clarification of items included in the RFP.

Commissioner Hall questioned the amount of the total contract amount from Waste Industries. Commissioner Lucas answered that the bid from Waste Industries was \$365,528.10 per year.

Commissioner Lucas stated that it appears that Waste Industries may have some concern that the designated disposal site may close.

Chairman Battle stated that it appears that Board members need some clarification.

Chairman Battle stated to Mr. Ingle that if they were to be awarded the contract, the Board would like for them to do more than "strive to become partners" with its customers. Mr. Ingle clarified that Waste Industries is at a disadvantage because he does not know what the needs are, but they have already made a small monetary donation to a recreation need in the County.

Chairman Battle stated that it is the consensus of the Board to have the County Attorney respond to Commissioner Hall's concerns and draft a contract consistent with the RFP and this item would be placed on the Board's August 16th agenda.

PROPOSED BUILDING INSPECTIONS ORDINANCE

Mr. Robert Shaver, Jr., County Attorney, reported that at the last Board meeting, a public hearing was held on the proposed Building Inspections Ordinance, which was actually the second public hearing held on this Ordinance. Mr. Shaver stated that at that time this Ordinance was tabled until this meeting. Mr. Shaver noted that at the public hearing comments were made requesting that a more specific time be given by the Building Inspector for inspections rather than an AM or PM time. Mr. Shaver added that there were also questions at the public hearing concerning the proposed fee schedule for

commercial construction. Mr. Shaver reported that after further review by the County Manager and discussions with the Building Inspector and contractors, the County Manager feels that due to the fact that two Inspectors cover all trades, the size of the County, and its efforts to be as flexible as possible with same and next day inspections for weather sensitive inspections, the AM/PM scheduling should remain in the Ordinance. Mr. Shaver added that the County Manager had provided a comparison of commercial buildings to surrounding counties and felt that Caswell's fee structure is in the mid range and is a fair rate.

Commissioner Hamlett stated that he did not have a problem with the fee schedule, but would recommend that the following sentence be deleted from Section 2-5. C. Requests for Inspections, "The Inspections Department shall make inspections as soon as practicable after the requested inspections date". Commissioner Hamlett added that he would also like to delete, "Reinspections may be made at the convenience of the inspector, and shall follow the same priority schedule". There was also a recommendation to delete "all reasonable efforts" and the sentence to read, "The Inspections Department shall perform inspections within 24 hours of request . . .".

Commissioner Hall stated that some of the material in the Ordinance appears to be more of a management issue than what should be in an Ordinance. Commissioner Hall added that if a specific timetable is put in the Ordinance, then there needs to be one for every season and for every possible incident that could happen, and this is not practical. Commissioner Hall noted that management through experience could make these decisions and everything cannot be written into the Ordinance.

Commissioner Ward stated that with a new Building Inspector being hired, he felt that this Inspector could schedule appointments for inspections.

Commissioner Travis stated that if everyone would use good common sense, he felt the Ordinance could work.

Ms. Sara Lawter, Chief Building Inspector, stated that it is not possible for all inspections to be made within 24 hours with the staff that she has currently.

Mr. Shaver stated that he could not recommend deleting the language from the Ordinance as suggested. Mr. Shaver added that "as soon as practicable" as it relates to making inspections, is included in most local building inspections ordinances.

Mr. Melvin Butler stated that he has had a number of contractors come to him and talk about the Building Inspections Office. Mr. Butler added that he feels that there is a combative dialogue between the Building Inspections Office and the contractors and there should be a cooperative dialogue. Mr. Butler stated that if there is communication, a lot of the problems will be eliminated.

After further discussion, Commissioner Lucas moved, seconded by Chairman Battle to adopt the proposed Building Inspections Ordinance as written. The motion carried by a vote of four to three with Commissioners Hamlett, Travis, and Ward voting no.

COUNTY MANAGER'S REPORT

Chairman Battle reported for the County Manager that a request has been made by Mr. Tom Edmonds, Economic Developer, for permission to apply for a Tourism Matching Funds Marketing Grant. Chairman Battle stated that the grants are designed to assist local non-profit organizations and government entities market their area as travel destinations. Chairman Battle added that if the County's match is not waived, the cost would be \$1,166. After discussion, Commissioner Hamlett moved, seconded by Commissioner Ward to approve the request for the Economic Developer to apply for the Tourism Matching Funds Marketing Grant. The motion carried unanimously.

Chairman Battle presented for the County Manager a request for the appointment of Mr. Wilson Carter to the 21st Century Steering Committee. Commissioner Ward stated that he has been questioned as to why Mr. Carter is being added to the 21st Century Steering Committee and clarified that Mr. Carter was brought into the last meeting to discuss what the eConomic Leap has done up to this point. Commissioner Ward added that through some discussion on the Committee, Mr. Carter was asked by some of the members to serve on the Committee and was appointed as a Team leader. After some discussion by the Board, Commissioner Lucas stated that she was confused as to why there would be any hesitation in appointing Mr. Carter to this Committee when he has put forth time and effort into the project. After further discussion, Commissioner Ward moved, seconded by Commissioner Lucas to appoint Mr. Wilson Carter to the 21st Century Steering Committee. The motion carried by a vote of five to two with Commissioners Hamlett and Travis voting no.

Chairman Battle reported that the DMV License Office would be closed from August 16 through August 20, 2004.

ANNOUNCEMENTS/QUESTIONS

Chairman Battle stated that if a Commissioner has an agenda item, he or she is to relay this to the County Manager prior to the meeting in a timely manner. Chairman Battle added that a Commissioner could also amend the agenda at a meeting to include an additional item. Chairman Battle noted that Other Business would not be an agenda item in the future. Chairman Battle stated that Commissioner Hooper has indicated that he has an agenda item for the next meeting relating to the Dan River Water Project.

Chairman Battle reported that while at the recent National Association of Counties' Conference he and Commissioner Hall attended a session on earned income tax credits. Chairman Battle stated that he feels that there are a lot of employees that would qualify for this and has directed the County Manager to review this further.

Chairman Battle stated that at the next meeting he would have the County Manager update the Board on the status of repair of the Historic Courtroom ceiling.

Commissioner Hall reported that as Chairman of the Piedmont Triad Council of Governments, he has been working to solicit additional support around the region for the fiber optic line to come out of Virginia into North Carolina and through Caswell County. Commissioner Hall stated that he is currently writing an article that will be published in a regional business newspaper to garner support for this project.

Chairman Battle thanked the Board for the recent flowers sent to him as a result of a death in his family.

THE ADJOURNMENT

At 8:40 p.m. Commissioner Travis moved, seconded by Commissioner Hamlett to adjourn the meeting. The motion carried unanimously.

Wanda P. Smith
Clerk to the Board

M. O. Battle
Chairman
